

Roberto, Joseph

From: DeMaria, Eva
Sent: Tuesday, July 22, 2014 7:37 AM
To: Mugleston, Darin; Roberto, Joseph; Brozusky, Sandra; Weber, Courtney
Subject: FW: Suction Dredge Mining - Enforcement
Attachments: EPA Letter 7.21.14.pdf; LMT Article 7.4.14.pdf; Facebook Posts.pdf

FYI - An interesting development.

From: MacIntyre, Mark
Sent: Monday, July 21, 2014 4:18 PM
To: Kenknight, Jeff; DeMaria, Eva; Ogle, Kimberly
Cc: Kowalski, Ed; Werntz, James; DeGering, Tracy; Holsman, Marianne
Subject: FW: Suction Dredge Mining - Enforcement

FYI....not sure how to handle this....MM

From: (b) (6) **On Behalf Of** F.S. "Buck" Ryan
Sent: Monday, July 21, 2014 4:05 PM
To: MacIntyre, Mark
Cc: John Carter
Subject: Suction Dredge Mining - Enforcement

Mark -

Visited the South Fork Clearwater on Tuesday to check out the suction dredging mining protest and gather evidence on the demonstrators. A few NPT, BLM, and FS representatives in the area, but no EPA present or enforcement activity underway. I did some investigation on the individuals we encountered to positively ID them, and I want to share the info we gathered for EPA's use in pressing charges and levying fines against the perpetrators.

Thus, please find attached hereto Snake River Waterkeeper's official request for enforcement along with photographs and documentary evidence discovered as part of our investigation into these illegal mining practices. I will wait to hear from you on next steps in EPA's progress investigating and prosecuting these violations, and I will make myself available in any capacity possible to assist to that end, including testimony if needed.

Also, let me know if Jim is interested in lining up a time to talk as I am in town tomorrow and the week after next. Thanks again for your interest and support. On this and future issues, please keep me informed on how we can help.

Best,

BR

Dredge 6.jpg



Dredge.jpg



Dredge3.jpg



Dredge4.jpg



DSC_0259.JPG



DSC_0265.JPG



DSC_0266.JPG



DSC_0269.JPG



DSC_0272.JPG

[DSC_0273.JPG](#)

[DSC_0277.JPG](#)

[Jaydredge1.jpg](#)

[South West Idaho Mining 2.jpeg](#)

[South West Idaho Mining.jpg](#)

On Wed, Jul 9, 2014 at 11:43 AM, MacIntyre, Mark <Macintyre.Mark@epa.gov> wrote:

Buck: Thanks for your note! I will be in touch with Jim soon and will set something up.

Here is the “statement” we’re using for the Riggins event:

“EPA respects the right of every citizen to peaceably protest on federal lands, however the area of the Salmon River where the “dredge-in” is planned is closed under EPA’s statewide general permit covering this type of mining activity. Suction dredge mining is prohibited in this area in order to protect critical habitat for Chinook salmon, steelhead and bull trout under the Endangered Species Act. Dredging in this area could damage this important fish habitat and would be a violation of EPA’s permit.

Many other areas of Idaho are open to suction dredge mining under EPA's general permit. Since last year, EPA has issued 116 permits for this activity and we continue to be available to assist miners in obtaining permits for areas where mining is allowed.

We are talking and working with the mining community and our federal, state, tribal and local partners to ensure they understand the requirements of the general permit."

Thanks again for your work on behalf of the Snake River!

Mark

From: (b) (6) **On Behalf Of** F.S. "Buck" Ryan
Sent: Wednesday, July 09, 2014 9:51 AM
To: MacIntyre, Mark
Subject: Boise contact

Hi Mark -

I appreciate you taking the time to chat this morning about EPA's take on suction dredge mining on the Salmon River. If you don't mind forwarding the Agency's official statement my way, I'd appreciate it.

Thanks also for your offer to introduce me to Jim Werntz here in Boise. Feel free to forward this email or have him contact me directly using the information below.

Finally, I appreciate your interest in and offer to support SRW. You can become a member or donate directly through our website at <http://snakeriverwaterkeeper.org/get-involved/join/>

Take care,

BR

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Buck Ryan

Executive Director

Snake River Waterkeeper

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